

Sociology: It's Relationship with Other Social Sciences

Lesson No.	Title	Activity
3	Sociology: It's relationship with other social sciences	Make a comparison of sociology with other social sciences with regard to studying phenomena/

Summary

Sociology as a subject studies how human beings relate with each other and also studies human behaviour in different perspective. Sociology and other social sciences i.e. history, political science, economics, social work, psychology, and anthropology are all autonomous because of their scope and subject matter. At sometimes, they are also inter-dependent since they all deal with human society. These subjects share a meaningful relationships with each other.

Sociology and History

Relationship

Sociology and history are interconnected with each other.

- Sociologists study the contemporary society and for understanding social and cultural change, they always refer to the historical material available on it.
- History takes support of sociology to analyse historical phenomenon. It primarily looks into social aspects of past human lives. Now, history has also become far sociological.
- It also studies social and cultural patterns, gender relations, customs and traditions other than the acts of kings, kingdoms and wars. Thus, both the subject supplement each other in understanding social developments.

Differences

Sociology

- concerned with present day societies
- attempts to generalize about human societies

History

- concerned with the past
- confines itself with specific societies

Sociology and Political Science

Relationship

❖ Political Science is a branch of social science that deals with systematic study of the state, government and other organs of power. It studies the nature of the distribution of power in a society and the nature of the government and its functions.

- ❖ For sociology, political institution is one of the institutions of society and should be analysed in relationship with other institutions. The specialized study of political institution that sociologists undertake is known as political sociology.
- ❖ It shares many characteristics in common with political science, but it emphasizes more on exploring the social bases of the distribution of power, control mechanisms, and the system of law

Differences

Sociology

- Man is a political being
- begin with macro units and generalise about them

Political Science

- tries to explain the social aspect of man as a political being
- Studies micro units, systematically compare them and then reach common propositions

Sociology and Economics

Relationship

Economics studies the aspects of production, distribution and exchange, and consumption in society. Economics is primarily a science of wealth and choice and it deals with economic activities of man.

- ❖ Sociologist studies economic institution as one of the several institutions of human society. It examines the functioning of the economic institution in relationship with other institutions.
- ❖ Sociologists submit that social factors exercise a tremendous impact on the decisions people make with respect to resources, their use and distribution

Differences

Economics

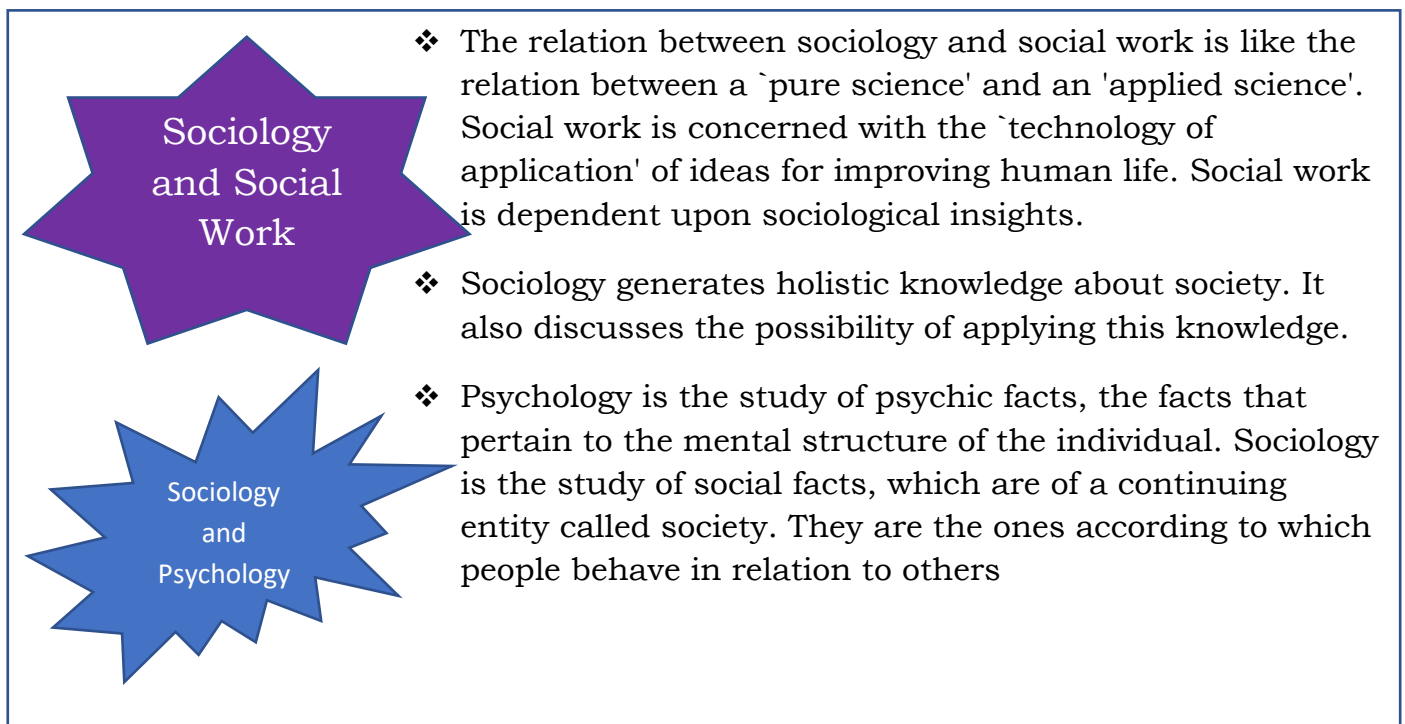
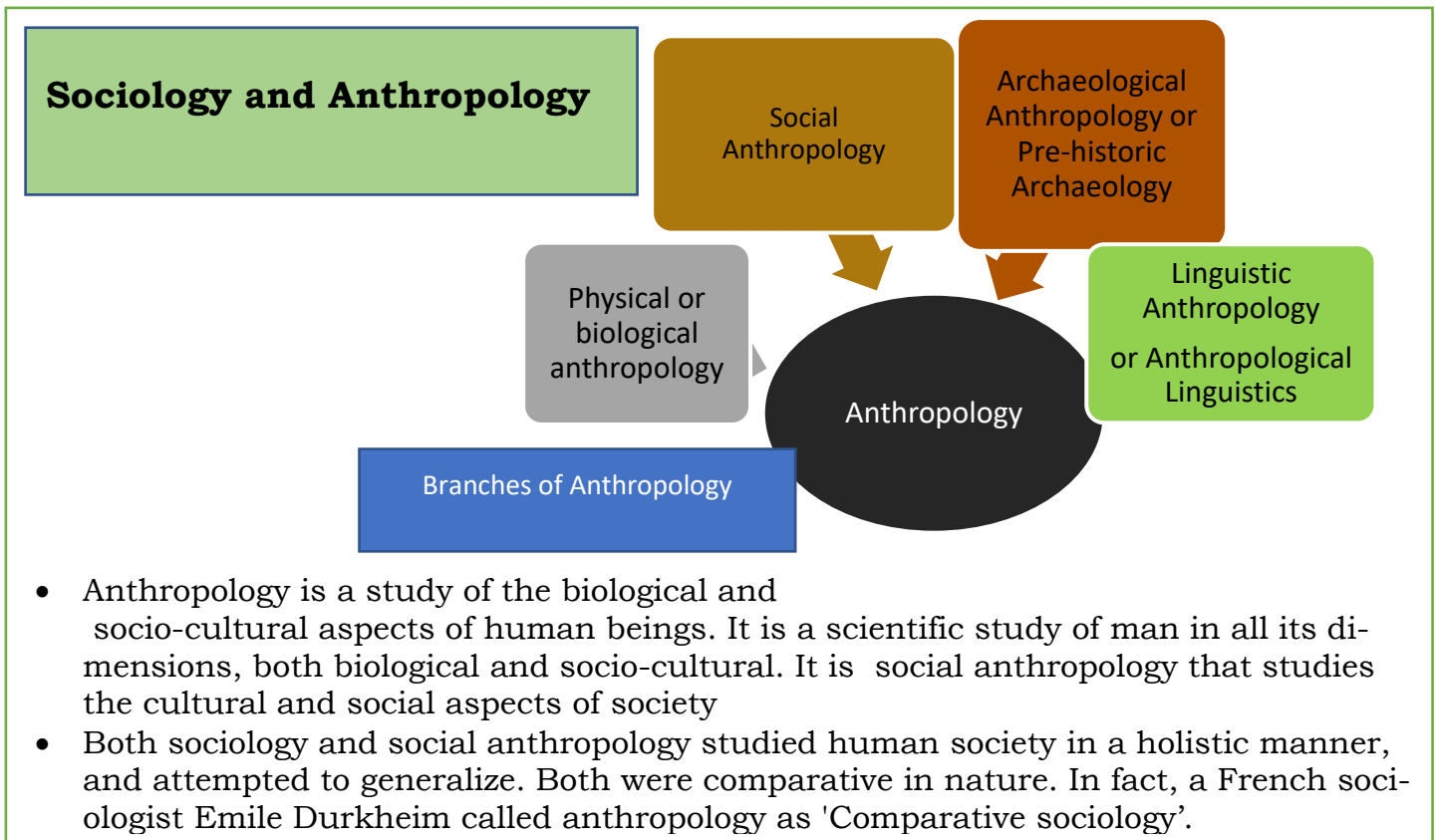
(Follows Deductive Approach)

- Census Reports
- Economic Survey Report
- Balance sheets

Sociology

(Follows inductive Approach)

- Intensive field work
- Study at Macro level



Evaluate Yourself

1. Does political sociology address the concern of both sociology and political science? Justify your answer.
2. How would you differentiate between sociology and economics with regard to collection of data?
3. 'Between sociology and social work lies applied sociology'. Explain the statement.